

VILLAGE OF FREDONIA
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
July 6, 2006

The regular village board meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Pro Tem Larry Waskiewicz. Present: Larry Waskiewicz, Don Dohrwardt, Chris Kunstmann, Bruce Laabs, Larry Palm, and Joe Short. Also present: Allen Neumann, Gary Buntrock, Dave Ratatori, Vicky Cantrall, Angie Kellar, Tina Ratatori, Mark Jaeger, Eugene Graff, Lisa Dohrwardt, Sean Kellar, and Jo Ann Wagner. Arriving later: Scot Roberts.

Approve Minutes

Minutes of the June 15, 2006 village board meeting were approved as presented on a **MOTION** by Short, seconded by Palm, and carried, with Laabs and Kunstmann abstaining.

Payment of Bills

With the additional list presented, the general fund, water and sewer bills were approved for payment on a **MOTION** by Dohrwardt, seconded by Short, and carried with Laabs abstaining.

Operator Licenses

Operator licenses for Ronnie Gillis and Sarah Korbar, and renewal operator licenses for Danny Johns and Germaine Umhoefer were approved on a **MOTION** by Kunstmann, seconded by Short, and carried.

Facility Plan for Wastewater Treatment Plant

The cost for 100% build out of the wastewater management alternatives was reviewed. The IFAS system will minimize costs to the village while the SBR plant would be state of the art technology. The cost of operation for the SBR plant would be less, but the upfront cost would be more. After discussion a **MOTION** was made by Short, seconded by Kunstmann, to retrofit the wastewater treatment plant with the IFAS system. Motion carried unanimously.

Yard/Sidewalk Encroachment at 423 Fredonia Avenue

Waskiewicz nominated Short as acting president for this one agenda item. This was seconded by Kunstmann and carried. Waskiewicz and Dohrwardt recused themselves from the discussion. Short stated that encroachment of the sidewalk at 423 Fredonia Avenue was discussed at the last meeting. Last year the property owner told the village board that this would be taken care of in spring. Neumann spoke with the property owner before the last meeting and a plan is in place, but not a timeline. Palm noted that there was also an issue with the garbage. Short noted he has recently received another complaint about low hanging limbs over the sidewalk. This now becomes a safety issue. Kunstmann questioned if we will also address the low hanging limbs in other areas of the village. He noted that a committee should be given the responsibility to monitor this type of situation and not waste the village board's time. Dohrwardt (speaking as a citizen) stated that the stones have already been removed and progress has been made on moving the plants from the parkway. Lisa Dohrwardt, representative of the Fredonia Garden Club, noted that she

has received many positive comments on the aesthetics of the property. She stated that if it is a physical nuisance, the Garden Club will work with the property owner to resolve the problem. Short stated that the complaints include plants in the terrace area and overhanging branches. Scot Roberts noted that there are also weeds in the area but did not know if they were noxious weeds. A **MOTION** was made by Palm, seconded by Short, to give the property owner two weeks to clean up the terrace area and one foot back from the sidewalk. Motion carried with Short, Palm and Laabs voting aye, and Kunstmann abstaining. (Waskiewicz and Dohrwardt returned to the village board)

Wisconsin Street Property Clean Up

Waskiewicz noted that in the past the village board has specified junk items as being cars not registered, noxious weeds, uncut grass, trailers and multiple tires. Dohrwardt stated that four vehicles have been removed, one trailer has been removed, three dumpsters full of various items have been removed and one dumpster filled with tires has been removed. All vehicles that are left on the property are licensed. He stated he has walked the bike path and the only thing you can see is the fence line and it is full of foliage. Scot Roberts noted that he walks in the area and estimates that 90 to 95% of the junk items have been removed. Laabs questioned if there are other options for the property owner, such as fencing in the area. A **MOTION** was made by Waskiewicz, seconded by Short, to instruct legal counsel to review village ordinance, identify any items that do not comply with village ordinance, and then draft a letter to the property owner to be reviewed by the village board at their next meeting. Dohrwardt suggested that the village rent a dumpster to help the property owner instead of incurring attorney fees. Kunstmann noted that some of the items including tires and barrels cannot be disposed of in a dumpster. Dohrwardt stated that he would not be opposed to having a committee “inventory” the items that need to be disposed. After further discussion a vote was taken on the motion with Short, Palm and Waskiewicz voting aye, and Dohrwardt, Laabs and Kunstmann voting nay. Motion failed. Dohrwardt then made a **MOTION**, seconded by Laabs, to instruct the Public Works Committee to view the premises, with the property owners permission, and identify items to be removed. Waskiewicz suggested that the weed commissioner accompany the Public Works Committee and a deadline be added. Dohrwardt amended his motion to have the Weed Commissioner accompany the Public Works Committee to view the property and to bring all the information back to the next board meeting. Motion carried with Waskiewicz opposed.

Truck Route

Establishing a truck route from the industrial park to Hwy. 57 via Meadowlark Road was discussed. This would eliminate the safety concerns for trucks using the South Milwaukee Street intersection with Fredonia Avenue. A **MOTION** was made by Dohrwardt, seconded by Laabs, to instruct the Director of Public Works to purchase and install appropriate signs to use Meadowlark Road as the truck route from South Milwaukee Street to Hwy. 57. Motion carried.

Truck Parking on Village Streets

Dohrwardt noted that current village ordinance allows truck parking on village streets in nonresidential areas. Waskiewicz identified two issues that he is still concerned about -

pavement damage and safety. The ordinance will need to be changed to address these two issues.

Report from Public Works Committee on June 22, 2006 Meeting

Dohrwardt reported that the Public Works Committee met with the Building Committee from the Town of Fredonia to explore the possibility of building a joint village/town hall. It is an option that needs to be investigated to see if it would be feasible. Laabs noted that it will need to make financial sense for both the town and the village. Kunstmann stated that if this is going to be considered, the long range plan should be updated. Other projects may be delayed if a village hall is built sooner than originally planned. Kunstmann noted that NIMS will begin to impact road projects within the next year or two. Firefighters, EMS personnel, police, village employees, will all need training. Dohrwardt stated that the county should continue to maintain the instruction level needed. Kunstmann will provide information to the village's Emergency Government Director on NIMS requirements.

Report from Director of Public Works – Truck Repairs

Neumann reported that the restoration work on the South Milwaukee Street project is almost finished. However, the 2000 International dump truck incurred extensive damage to the hoist. The truck has been transported to Burke Truck in Madison. Repairs are estimated at \$9,000 – worst-case scenario. A **MOTION** was made by Dohrwardt, seconded by Kunstmann, to authorize Burke Truck to repair the 2000 IHC at a cost not to exceed \$6,000, with the Director of Public Works given the authorization to approve needed repairs to a total cost of \$9,000. A new box and hoist costs approximately \$46,000. Normal warranty is three years. Neumann stated that he believed Burke would give some type of warranty on the repair. Motion carried.

Sewer Backup – South Milwaukee Street

Dohrwardt recused himself as he is one of the homeowners that had the sewer backup into their basement. Neumann stated that on June 18, 2006 a blockage occurred in the sanitary sewer system on South Milwaukee Street causing the sewer to backup into the basements of four homes. Damage claims have been received from two of the parties. The claims have been submitted to the village's insurance company. Based on information available at the time, the insurance company denied the claims because the village has followed maintenance procedures. This area of sewer main was jetted in January 2006. The backup occurred between manhole 9-7 and 9-8. Further investigation revealed the following:

- Protruding taps exist in this section of line.
- When the sewer main was pressure tested in 1981, this area showed an unknown obstruction and a protruding service, along with 86 feet of main that was not grouted. In 1994 when the area was viewed the camera again stuck and was unable to proceed. At that time we were unable to view 117 lineal feet. Protruding taps were again noted.
- After the sewer main was jetted, the village was able to view this area of line with a small mini camera. This camera shows three joints with small cracks but large tree roots protruding into the sewer main.
- A sample of material found in the blocked sanitary sewer main was analyzed by an independent lab and found to be a mixture of residues from cooking fats and oils.

Neumann stated that protruding taps, grease and tree roots all contributed to the sewer backup. He recommended that the village award a contract to Great Lakes TV Seal to remove the protruding taps from this area of the sanitary sewer main and submit this additional information to the insurance company with a letter asking them to reconsider the two claims. Discussion followed.

- Sewer backup coverage is generally not included in homeowners insurance except if a rider for coverage is purchased.
- Additional protruding taps may be elsewhere in the village.
- The area in question may also have some settled pipe.
- One root section was interlaced through the entire pipe with the visual showing only a hole the size of the sewer jetter nozzle. This would allow liquid to flow but not solids.
- Information should be added to the newsletter informing the residents that if the village is not negligent in maintenance, sewer backups are not covered by our insurance and homeowners should review their homeowner's policy to see if they are covered.
- Information should be provided to residents informing them of what should be done in the event of a sewer backup, including clean up methods.
- Protruding taps are not illegal, but do contribute to sewer backups.

Dohrwardt, speaking as one of the homeowners affected, stated that as a homeowner, they did nothing wrong and should not be responsible for the cost of cleanup. With the information now available, it appears that the village did not meet expectations for maintenance on the sanitary sewer system. A **MOTION** was made by Short, seconded by Kunstmann, to remove the taps and roots as proposed by Great Lakes TV Seal, Inc. at a cost of \$2,671.40, with additional taps removed as required to clear this section of sanitary sewer main. Motion carried. A **MOTION** was made by Short, seconded by Waskiewicz, to capture everything that comes out of the sewer main when the taps and roots are cut and to submit this along with the additional information to the insurance company along with a letter asking them to reconsider the claims from the sewer main backup on South Milwaukee Street. Motion carried. A copy of CMOM was given to each board member. This reviews the maintenance procedures for sewer mains.

Report from Clerk-Treasurer

The written report was reviewed. Board members were reminded to have their committees prepare their budgets for 2007, including any proposals for changes to health insurance and/or employee benefits.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. on a MOTION by Short, seconded by Palm, and carried.